

**LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library  
Long-Range Plan for Library Service  
2016/17 through 2018/19**

The public library system in Leon County is a well-loved community resource for all. The downtown Main Library celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its opening in February 2016. A branch system has been developed over the years and there are now six branch libraries located throughout the county. The Main Library is open seven days a week; the branch libraries are open 40 hours a week, Tuesday through Saturday.

This long-range plan supports the Library mission by emphasizing the importance of excellent service to library users, careful selection of library materials in all formats to appeal to everyone in our community, and popular programs for children and adults. Engaging our community is emphasized in participation in social media, offering assistance in using the wide and ever-changing variety of electronic devices, and in supporting lifelong learning for everyone.

This plan has been developed from comments and suggestions from library users and library staff; from the Edge Assessment online tool provided by the State Library of Florida; and from a library focus group, held February 15, 2016, that was part of Leon County's biannual strategic planning.

This long-range plan for the library aligns with the Leon County Strategic Plan and the business plan established by the Leon County Board of County Commissioners.

**Library mission:** The LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System enriches the community by inspiring a love of reading, providing a dynamic resource for intellectual, creative and recreational pursuits, and enabling residents to live a life of learning.

**Library vision:** Inspiring a Love of Reading and a Life of Learning

**Goals and Objectives**

**Goal 1: Learning**

Lifelong learning is essential to the enjoyment of each day; to individual and community development; to making informed decisions; to the formation and nurture of new citizens; and to the encouragement of all. Everyone needs access to the ever-increasing and quickly changing sources of information and knowledge in today's world.

Objectives:

1. Library resources in all formats are carefully and continuously evaluated to ensure that they are up-to-date, reliable and authoritative. Staff members assist library users in finding the best information to fill their needs.
2. The library stays abreast of the changing ways that information is packaged and delivered. Instruction and assistance with electronic devices is offered to all.
3. Literacy services are provided through Literacy Volunteers of Leon County and Leon County Staff. Tutor pairs meet at every library location.
4. Library programs and displays spark curiosity and encourage exploration in reading, listening and viewing a wide variety of library materials.
5. Library staff members value the collective impact made through excellent service to each library user. Staff receives training and information in order to provide optimal service using all library resources.

**Goal 2: Inclusiveness**

The library is a welcoming, trusted and valuable community resource for Leon County's diverse population.

Objectives:

1. Library materials are provided for the interest, information and enlightenment of all people in Leon County. Library materials are carefully selected to present all points of view to appeal to the diverse interests of the community.
2. Library programs are offered for all. The library offers book groups, story time, Baby Time, programs for children and families, and other library events and programs of interest to the community.
3. The Library's social media presence appeals to all ages and encourages participation.
4. In offering service to all, library staff members embrace and demonstrate the core values of Leon County government: service, relevance, integrity, accountability, respect, collaboration, stewardship, performance, transparency and vision.

### **Goal 3: Engagement**

The library reaches out to the community to engage and inspire people as they live, work, study, relax and enjoy recreation as part of their daily lives.

#### **Objectives:**

1. Library staff members are recognized as welcoming, knowledgeable and service-oriented.
2. Relevant, engaging materials displays, displays of art and other objects, and posts on social media appeal to all and encourage comment and conversation.
3. The Library seeks to engage and encourage all to use the library through social media, newsletter, volunteer opportunities, collaboration with other county agencies in programs and activities, and participation in community events such as Springtime Tallahassee and the Festival of Freedom.
4. The Library explores and develops innovative ways to interact with and serve in-house and virtual library users.
5. Leon County government officials and staff members recognize and utilize the resources and staff expertise of the library.

### **Goal 4: Place**

The Main Library and six branch libraries are a firmly anchored physical presence throughout the community. The libraries provide welcoming and meaningful experiences to all who enter. Community members can engage with each other, attend or host meetings and programs, and/or enjoy quiet spaces. The library's online presence offers reliable information and resources as well as social media connections.

#### **Objectives:**

1. Library facilities are well-maintained, inviting places.
2. Public internet PCs, Wi-Fi, the library website, online catalog, and the library integrated management system are up-to-date and function without interruption of service.

3. The Library environment is organized and free from clutter, signage is up-to-date and visible, service desks are staffed and identified, and materials are easy to find.
4. Comfortable, appropriate public meeting spaces are available at every library.